

REMARKS

Claim 20 has been amended by this preliminary amendment. No claims have been cancelled or added. As a result, claims 1-35 remain pending in this patent application.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Group I (claims 1-19, 35), *with traverse*, for immediate prosecution. Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement for the reasons stated below.

The Restriction Requirement asserts that Groups I and II are separately usable because the claims of Group II does not require using an AC generator as required by the claims of Group I. (*See* Restriction Requirement at 2.) The Restriction Requirement therefore asserts that Group I could be applied to other combustion engine systems, such as locomotives and not necessarily to recreational vehicles as required by Group I. (*See id.*) Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent method claim 20 of Group II such that Group II now expressly recites using an AC generator. Therefore, because Group II is now fully commensurate with Group I in this respect, the basis for the Restriction Requirement is no longer valid. Moreover, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Restriction Requirement's characterization of Group I as being limited to recreational vehicles. For example, Group I includes several claims, including independent claim 1, which are not so limited to a recreational vehicle. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the basis for the Restriction Requirement is not valid.

In sum, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement and examination of Group II (claims 20-34) together with the Group I claims (1-19 and 35) that were elected, *with traverse*, for immediate prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,


DAN G. PRIEM

By his Representatives,

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
P.O. Box 2938
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 373-6951

Date April 25, 2005

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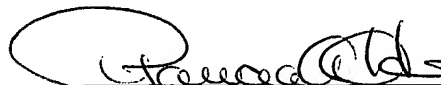


Suneel Arora

Reg. No. 42,267

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PATRICIA A. HULTMAN
Name


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